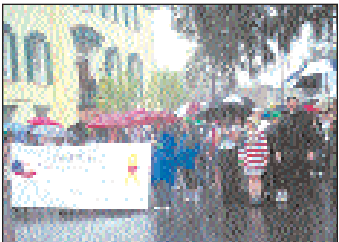


Serving the 3rd Infantry Division (Mechanized), the Fort Stewart and Hunter Army Airfield communities

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GETTING READY ...



Pfc. Holly Chapin, paralegal specialist for Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 28th Infantry Division (Mech.), prepares to fire at an M16 range. The range is just one part of the 28th Inf. Div. (Mech)’s training for their rotation to Kosovo. See Page 8A for story and photos.

James A. Cornwell

Soldiers, family members need to keep eyes open

Spc. Anthony K. Reinoso

372d MPAD

The terrorist threat is still alive. What with the recent presidential announcement and mass deployment of troops into the Middle East, people on the home front need to stay vigilant. Soldiers, family members and government employees should maintain their daily routines, but remain aware and alert.

“Force protection for the military is very similar to the Homeland Security Advisory System, but they are not connected,” said Joe Rogish, a former military police captain, presently a government employee as an anti-terrorism officer. Due to the general threat, MPs are conducting more random security checks on Fort Stewart.

Rogish said, “We prioritize what we think are the most likely threats and then we implement the best defense.” The security measures MPs take are threat-based. Each situation is handled on a case-to-case basis. It is important these measures remain unpredictable.



Spc. Casandra Bolton

Spc. Robert E. L. Miller, a National Guard military police officer from the 304th Military Police Company, Bluefield, checks identification cards while on duty at the gate.

See ALERT Page 11A

Wrong entry date may
lead to less retirement

Staff Sgt. Marcia Triggs

Army News Service

WASHINGTON — A soldier could be shortchanged at the time of retirement or erroneously receive a bonus if the date he signed his military contract is wrong in his records.

The Army, however, is giving soldiers a chance to make sure their date of initial entry into military service, also known as DIEMS, is accurate. A DIEMS date is when a service member enters into a contract with the military. It could be when an enlisted soldier signed the delayed entry contract or when an officer signed an ROTC scholarship contract.

Breaks in service do not change a DIEMS date, said Melissa Dean, a human resource specialist at the U.S. Total Army Personnel Command. Service in other branches also counts toward the initial entry date, she said. The goal is to record the earliest date possible, Dean added. DIEMS, however, should not be confused with the basic active service date, which is the date when a soldier enters active duty.

Both enlisted soldiers and officers can check their DIEMS at https://www.perscom.army.mil/persinsd/dqm_home.htm. Currently only individuals with a BASD of Jan. 1, 1979 through Dec. 31, 1982 can go to the site to see if their date is correct. Soldiers will be able to check their dates in increments based on their BASD.

Due to the large number of officer and enlisted files that require validation, the schedule for soldiers to review their DIEMS on-line is:

April 2 though June 1 for soldiers with a BASD between Jan. 1, 1983 to Dec. 31, 1986; June 2 through Aug. 1 for soldiers with a BASD between Jan. 1, 1987 to Dec. 31, 1989. More dates

Top Reserve general visits Stewart for
first-hand look at mobilized soldiers

Sgt. Sam Hoffman

Staff Writer

Lt. Gen. James R. Helmly, chief, Army Reserve, toured Fort Stewart Sunday in order to get a first-hand look into the lives of the more than 4,000 Reservists and National Guardsmen currently stationed here.

Col. Edwin Marrero, installation chief of staff, escorted Helmly and his entourage through Reserve billeting areas and the Common Tasks Training site.

At CTT, Helmly inspected training and interviewed soldiers. During his visit, he offered non-commissioned

officers advice on how they might better their instruction. Helmly encouraged them to use graphic depictions of casualties as an augmentation of first-aid classes.

“You need to be shocking people into seeing that this is serious business,” he said to Master Sgt. Armondo Maiz, CTT NCO in charge.

Helmly praised Fort Stewart as a training site for mobilized and deploying Reservists.

“Fort Stewart has excellent facilities, ranges and trainers; as well as access to a first rate airfield,” he said.

See VISIT, Page 11A



Sgt. Sam Hoffman

Lt. Gen. James Helmly reminisces about the 101st Airborne Division with Sgt. Robert McCants, training NCO, at CTT. Both are former combat veterans of the division.



Soldiers, families march in St. Patrick's Day parade showing support for deployed soldiers



Photos by Pfc. Emily Daniel

Col. Gerald Poltorak, installation commander, prepares to march with spouses and children of deployed soldiers who represented their loved ones in the St. Patrick's Day Parade Monday.



(Above) Even though they're drenched from head to toe, the Color Guard, made up of soldiers from Headquarters 3rd Infantry Division (Mech.) provisional, carry the colors straight and tall. (Left) Children send a special message to their father on the back of their wagon.



(Above) The Forces Command Armed Forces Band prepare to march through the parade, demonstrating their skill. (Right) Spouses wear their family member's unit shirts during the parade to display their devotion to loved ones who are deployed.



Ribbon-cutting ceremony at Fort Stewart’s industrial wastewater treatment plant

Anna Stager
Special to The Frontline

To commemorate the completion of the \$3.5 million renovation of Fort Stewart’s industrial wastewater treatment plant, a ribbon-cutting ceremony was held on March 5.

The ceremony provided an opportunity for the Installation Commander, Col. Gerald Poltorak, and members of the design and construction inspection team, as well as representatives from various support organizations throughout the installation, to step back and reflect on a job well done.

Poltorak, the keynote speaker, explained how the facility supports the industrial mission of the soldiers at Fort Stewart.

He said, “The treatment plant allows soldiers to keep doing what they are doing without fear of destroying the environment or endangered species habitats that exist within installation waterways.”

Poltorak admitted, though, that it was an uphill battle obtaining approval for the project, but interjected that he personally believed in the importance of the improvements.

Recognizing that the industrial system starts in the motorpools, at the washracks and maintenance bays, conveying oil-entrained wastewater to the plant through a network of pipes and lift stations for treatment and ultimate discharge into the environment, Poltorak stressed the necessity of the facility improvements and explained that the renovations will help the treatment plant purify the water that is discharged and aid in the overall efficiency of the plant’s operation.

Completion of the projects at the plant ensures that the facilities and infrastructures are in place to handle by-products of training readiness.

Tom Fry, chief, Directorate of Public Works’ Environmental and Natural Resources Division, recognized individuals from both the private sector and throughout the installation who provided input, support, and expertise during the entire improvements project.

In addition, Fry detailed the necessity of the improvements, commenting, “The treatment plant was constructed prior to the enactment of many of the modern, more



Anna Stager

David Ross, project engineer from the architectural and engineering firm and Tressa Rutland, environmental engineer, join Col. Gerald Poltorak in the cutting of the ribbon for Fort Stewart’s industrial wastewater treatment plant

stringent environmental regulations. Consequently, the plant contained several structural deficiencies that required rehabilitation as part of a corrective action.”

With the treatment plant as the backdrop and recognizing that many of the attendees may not have had an opportunity in the past to visit the facility, Tressa Rutland, environmental engineer with the DPW ENRD, took the opportunity to verbally guide the audience through a tour of the treatment process, highlighting the specifics of the improvement projects.

She explained that the facility’s main function is “to treat industrial wastewater through a physical separation and removal process prior to its discharge into Taylor’s Creek.”

Afterwards, many of the attendees commented that, prior to the ceremony, they simply did not realize the importance of the plant and were proud to have been a part of it.

Poltorak asked Rutland and David Ross, Project Engineer from the architectural and engineering firm responsible for design upgrades, EMC Engineering, Inc., to join him on the platform to cut the ribbon.

Marne, Victory Chapel to add new wings

Sgt. Sam Hoffman
Staff Writer

The expansion of Marne and Victory Chapels began with a groundbreaking ceremony March 12.

“It was necessary that we build something that meets the standards,” said Chaplain (Lt. Col.) Allen Boatwright, installation chaplain.

The addition to the chapels addresses concerns that there is a lack of watch-care space for toddlers and that it didn’t meet Occupational Safety and Health Administration standards, he said.

Scheduled for completion Aug. 23, the construction will include a 1,100 square foot multi-purpose worship area.

“It was designed to accommodate Muslims; they have a need for split worship (where men and women pray separately),” Boatwright said.

Currently, Islamic services are held in a trailer outside the Military Police station. There are frequently 30 to 50 worshipers attending services, he said.

Fort Stewart’s Muslim soldiers don’t deserve to be forced to observe their faith in such terrible conditions.

“We can do better than that,” said Boatwright.

The serious undertaking of expanding two chapels was coordinated through the Army Corps of Engineers, the Directorate of Public Works and the Directorate of Resource Management.

Boatwright also extended his gratitude to Army Chief of Chaplains, Maj. Gen. G.T. Gunhus.

The estimated cost of this project is \$381,000 with roughly half of the cost being covered by Gunhus, Boatwright said.

“It was a lot easier going to Col. (Gerald) Poltorak (installation commander) and saying we already have half the money,” he said.

“That’s a big blessing for Fort Stewart!”

Fort Stewart will also receive a new chapel in fiscal year 2006. Recently the recipient of the Army’s “Chapel of the Year” program, an Army-wide effort to better worship opportunities at posts worldwide by building a new chapel at the selected post, Fort Stewart will have a 36,000 square foot facility that incorporates the “Southern Coastal Motif” of columns, red brick and green roofs, complete with activity center, 20 classrooms, a 1,200 seat worship area and it can even hold two services simultaneously, said Boatwright.

The “Chapel of the Year” program was halted a number of years ago and recently restarted with Fort Stewart getting the first chapel. The chapel will cost approximately \$7.45 million, he said.

It was important to Fort Stewart and the 3rd Infantry Division (Mech.) to have a 1,200-seat area when there are funerals; it becomes necessary to hold a service that will be able to seat an entire battalion, Boatwright said.

Poltorak made remarks at the groundbreaking and expressed his wishes to make Fort Stewart a more desirable place to live. He also thanked Boatwright and dedicated the construction to soldiers in the Middle East.

“I do this thing in honor of our soldiers who are deployed,” he said.

Chaplain (Maj.) Alvin Miller, 3220th Garrison Support Unit, has been working closely with Boatwright for nearly two years. He attributed the expansion of the chapels to Boatwright’s persistence.

“Chaplain Boatwright is the one who shepherded the project,” he said.

J.J Sosa Contractors began work March 12, beginning with the groundbreaking.

Boatwright said he looks forward to seeing the completion of the two chapels.



Sgt. Sam Hoffman

Ron Crane, J.J. Sosa Contractors, Chaplain (Col.) Neil Dennington, installation staff chaplain, Col. Gerald Poltorak, installation commander, Chaplain (Lt. Col.) Allen Boatwright, deputy installation chaplain, and Chet Schratzmeier, Directorate of Public Works, dig the first ground at the Marne chapel expansion ceremony.

VOICES AND VIEWPOINTS

CG: 3rd Inf. Div. "... cocked and ready"

Maj. Gen. Buford C. Blount III

3rd Infantry Division, Fort Stewart and Hunter Army
Airfield commanding general

Everyone is getting comfortable in the desert outside the base camps. The Aviation Brigade tactical operations center left Camp Udairi Friday, March 14, and joined the other brigades and the Division Main who are in their respective assembly areas.

Most of the Marne soldiers have been off camp now for a little more than a week to make room for the arrival of the 101st Airborne Division whose equipment has not arrived. The Division Rear remains on Camp New York providing outstanding support to the Marne Division. We have everything we need — we are cocked and ready.

Living conditions are a bit more austere. We were whipped hard by the "sandstorm of the century" the night of March 12. Visibility was zero (as Lt. Col. Bayer found out trying to find his way back to DMAIN from the latrine/trench).

Judging by the popular new (short) hairstyles, many soldiers must have given up on trying to get sand out of their hair — they just got rid of their hair. The good news is that many of you will not have to worry about your husband's barber expenses for a while.

Sandstorms or no, we are trying to ensure the soldiers have access to as many amenities as possible. Soldiers are getting hot chow twice a day for breakfast and dinner. The MRE for lunch remains the standard, as it was when the soldiers lived on camp. Small PXs are now in service at each brigade for soldiers to get personal comfort items. Showers aren't a daily activity anymore, but daily hygiene is mandatory.

Deployments delayed ... but it could be worse

Spc. Ryan Smith

372nd MPAD

"We should only be at the mobilization station a few days—no more than a week or two," said first sergeants and commanders from Reserve and Guard units across the country.

A week later, soldiers had had more needles stuck in them than a pincushion. That's a good sign, isn't it? They have to inject all that stuff into you before you go overseas.

A week later, new training schedules go up, as some strange malaise rolls through the National Guard Training Center like a hurricane. Blame it on the shots; blame it on your buddy. Either way, half the soldiers around have been ill from something. But that's OK; it keeps you from getting some horrible, life-threatening disease. Right? At any rate, it must mean deployment is close.

Still, a week later, the soldiers are packed and ready to leave by Wednesday.

On Thursday, they're ready to leave

Commentary

Keep the mail flowing.

Although the moves have reduced the ability to make morale calls, and limited access to email, mail call is a daily occurrence. Mail call is one of the best times of the duty day for your Marne soldier. We appreciate the outstanding support from our families, friends and even strangers who take the time to just say thanks. Some times, a letter makes all the difference.

You may also keep up with the Marne Division through the Frontline Forward online edition. The Public Affairs section publishes a weekly twelve-page newsletter for the soldiers here and it is posted on the Fort Stewart web page at www.stewart.army.mil. There is clearly more activity than twelve pages allow us to publish, and we try to ensure there is broad coverage of the division. You can also send a short note to your Marne soldiers from the same web link. For those who do not have access to a computer, the articles are reprinted in the Frontline.

More than 80 members of the American and International Press joined us this week for permanent embed down into the battalions (just in time for the big sand storm!) with more than one thousand news media registered at the coalition press information center, the Department of Defense believed the easiest way to satisfy requests for coverage was to permanently embed media with all land, air

and sea components of U.S. Central Command. They are here to get a story and will have virtually unlimited access to soldiers and leaders. An added benefit of embedded media will be the mitigation of Iraqi propaganda, since they will be eyewitnesses across the battlefield. Embedded media is the best way to show America the great everyday heroes we have in the Army in an unvarnished way.

I spoke with our embedded media March 7 and asked them to help tell our story while we accommodate their needs. America's moms and dads need to know the sacrifice we have asked of their sons and daughters.

In an era of the 24-hour news cycle, media will be reporting nearly simultaneous should military operations against Iraq occur. Many of the broadcast media brought videophone and satellite uplink technology, and print media possess satellite phones. We believe they will use their discretion appropriately not to put our soldiers' lives in danger (After all, they will be coming along too!)

Soldiers are maintaining their war-fighting edge with training and maintenance in the AAs, primarily at the individual and small unit level. Leaders are keeping them focused on the task that may be before them shortly.

Leaders are keeping their edge too. March 13 and 14 we conducted a command post exercise to ensure continued synchronization among our division tactical operation centers. The 3rd Infantry Division (Mech.) remains the best-trained division in the Army. While we would prefer that the current crisis be solved peacefully, the division is prepared and confident. I know you are as proud of the Marne soldiers as I am.

"Rock of the Marne!"

longer requires a road march.

And it's the little things that help. Rather than being forced to eat the nutritious-and-always-tasty mystery food at the dining facilities, a short order mess hall has opened in the National Guard training area. Not only do they offer the usual hamburgers and hot dogs, but they actually grill them over an open flame. It's like an Independence Day cookout.

And after all, it looks like we might be here for the Fourth.

So even though there may be a long line waiting for one of the three racquetball courts at the gym, and it seems to take three or four hours to wash a load of laundry, things could be a lot worse. We could be eating MREs three times a day, shaving in a portable toilet and showering once a week. From what I've been told, there aren't many sports bars on the Iraqi border. Sure, it's nothing like home, but at least it's a bit more comfortable here than it could be. Fort Stewart has done its share in providing some exciting activities for deploying soldiers.

Marne Voice

THE FRONTLINE

Readers respond to the question:

What will public transportation do for soldiers at Fort Stewart?

"All this walking we have to do is uncalled for."

Spc. Mac Knopf
122nd Engineer Bn.



"It would benefit them a lot because half the soldiers on post don't have transportation."

Sgt. 1st Class Devon Parker
3220th GSU Finance



"Why spend all that extra money for a taxi when the military should be paying for this stuff?"

Sgt. Jon McManis
320th MP Co.



"It'll help the soldiers get around post and take care of their business."

Pfc. Charles Samek
196th Trans. Com.



"Most of us are walking two to three miles a day, just to get to the PX. I think it'll be wonderful."

1st Lt. Chris Kesting
801st Combat Suppt. Hospital

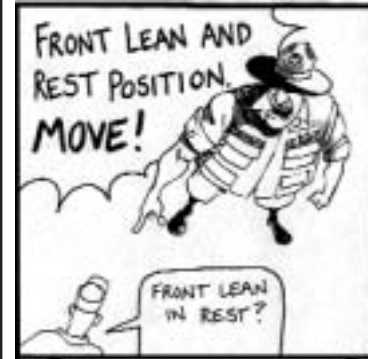


"We could definitely use some more buses."

Sgt. 1st Class Louise Kelly
801st Combat Suppt. Hospital



Pvt. Murphy's Law



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Write a letter to the editor!

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Public Affairs Office

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101 W. Bultman Ave.

Suite 101

Fort Stewart, Ga. 31314-4941

THE FRONTLINE

MILITARY NEWS: 767-3440
ADVERTISING: (912) 368-0526
Volume 19, Number 11

Publisher

3rd Infantry Division (Mechanized) Commander —
Maj. Gen. Buford C. Blount III

This civilian enterprise newspaper is an authorized publication for members of the U.S. Army. Contents of the Frontline are not necessarily the official views of, or endorsed by, the U.S. Government, Department of Defense, Department of the Army, or U.S. Forces Command. It is published weekly using offset printing by the Public Affairs Office, Fort Stewart, Georgia

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31314-5000. Phone number: 912-767-3440 or 767-8072
Printed circulation up to 22,000. All editorial content of the Frontline newspaper is prepared, edited, provided and approved by the Public Affairs Office of Fort Stewart, Georgia and the 3d Infantry Division (Mechanized) and is printed by Morris Newspaper Corporation of Hinesville, Inc. a private firm

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in no way connected with the Department of the Army, under exclusive written contract with Fort Stewart, Georgia. The civilian printer is responsible for commercial advertising. Subscription rates are \$9 for three months, \$16 for six months and \$30 for 12 months. Rates are for third class mail, inside the continental U.S.

Keeping confusion out of mail being sent to Kuwait

It can become confusing about how to send mail to Kuwait for 3rd Infantry Division (Mech.) soldiers. The information below has been compiled to provide the latest and most up-to-date information about some of the most frequent concerns of those wishing to send mail via the U.S. Postal system.

What is a unit number? What is it for? What if I don't have one? Many 3rd Inf. Div. (Mech.) units now have a unit number and a corresponding plus four APO code. These additional address identifiers have been assigned to allow the mail to be auto-sorted by the U.S. Postal Service which will speed the movement of the mail going to APO AE 09303. Mail without these additional identifiers must be manually sorted which slows down delivery.

If you are sending mail to a soldier whose unit does not have a unit number and plus four APO, send the mail to APO AE 09303, the mail will still be processed and delivered.

Since I have to include so much information in the address, is there a certain format to follow? Format the address for deployed 3rd Inf. Div. (Mech.) soldiers as follows:
Rank and name

Unit name
Camp name (if known)
Unit # XXXXX
APO AE 09303-XXXX

What are the mailing restrictions for Kuwait? When sending mail to Kuwait, APO AE 09303-XXXX, adhere to the following. This information is subject to change so always check with your local post office before you mail a package:

Do not mail any parcels exceeding 72 inches in length and girth combined. Measure the longest side of the box and then the distance around the box. Add these two numbers together and they must not exceed 72 inches. Additionally, no parcel may exceed 48 inches in length.

Do not mail any item that exceeds 70 pounds. This is the normal weight limit that applies to U.S. Mail.

Do not mail the following items:

■ Any matter containing religious material contrary to the Islamic faith. This refers to material that speaks out negatively against Islam and material sent in bulk in an effort to convert or evangelize. It is acceptable to send a Bible or religious tapes or books to a soldier.

■ Any matter depicting nude or semi-nude persons, pornographic or sexual items.
■ Any matter containing nonauthorized political material. This refers to material that could be used to impose our political view on the host country. It does not prohibit mailing a U.S. flag or a picture containing a flag to a soldier.
■ Firearms.
■ Pork or pork by-products.
■ Alcoholic beverages and materials used in the production of alcoholic beverages (distilling material, hops, malts, yeast, etc.).
■ Securities, currency or precious metals in their raw, unmanufactured state.
■ Obscene articles, prints, paintings, cards, films, videotapes, etc., and horror comics and matrices.

Can I send Express Mail to Kuwait? Express mail service is not provided to APO AE 09303 (Kuwait). All other mail services are available.

See MAIL, Page 12A



28th Inf. Div. (Mech.) begins training for mission to Kosovo

Pfc. James A. Cornwell

107th MPAD

With the current focus on Southwest Asia, other missions in the Department of Defense may have slipped from the consciousness of most soldiers. However, soldiers in the 28th Infantry Division (Mech.) of the Pennsylvania National Guard are preparing for one of those other missions.

Elements of the 28th Inf. Div. are at Fort Stewart for the next three months preparing for their scheduled six-month deployment to Kosovo.

They are slated to replace the 1st Infantry Division as the commanding unit of KFOR 5A, the multinational peacekeeping force there, on July 28, said Sgt. Maj. Kenneth Jacoby, task force sergeant major.

They will be on post until June, when they go to Fort Polk, La., for a mission rehearsal exercise, said Jacoby, and then they will return here for further process-

ing before leaving for Kosovo.

While on post, the 28th will conduct a command post exercise and receive much of the same training as those units deploying to Southwest Asia, to include weapons qualification, common task training, country and theater briefings, communication exercises, and leadership development.

The 28th is taking 25 Pennsylvania units and soldiers from 21 other states, according to Jacoby. The task force they will head in Kosovo includes personnel from Russia, Poland, Ukraine, Lithuania, and Greece. Approximately 1,700 of the division's 2,200 soldiers are currently here.

Unlike many of the units deploying to Southwest Asia, most of the 28th Inf. Div. were given ample warning that they were being mobilized. They were tasked to Kosovo in November and mobilized in January, Jacoby said.

This will be the first rotation of KFOR 5A to be commanded by a Reserve-component unit, said Jacoby.



Photos by James A. Cornwell

(Above) Soldiers from the 28th Inf. Div. wait their turn to fire at a M9 range.

(Top right) Pfc. Holly Chapin, paralegal specialist for HHC, 28th Inf. Div., waits her turn to fire an M-16.

(Bottom right) Maj. Craig Wagner, inspector general for 28th Inf. Div., removes the magazine from his M-9 after firing.



Soldiers must mind PT routes, uniform regulations

Spc. Natalie Schlotman
Staff writer

A sweat band, an Iggy Pop T-shirt and a pair of daisy-duke running shorts may be an acceptable workout uniform for some. But, for soldiers at Fort Stewart, there are specific uniform guidelines, as well as designated running routes and times to follow while working up a sweat. Additionally, there are routes for traffic flow to follow during the morning PT hour. Due to the decreased volume of soldiers on Fort Stewart, the front gate is now opened to two-way traffic. That is the only adjustment to the morning traffic routes, according to the

Installation Access Control authority. The 6:30 a.m. to 7:30 a.m. time block and uniform guidelines outlined in Fort Stewart Regulation 350-1 still apply.

Uniform

The U.S. Army PT uniform is the only uniform authorized while exercising during the PT hour on duty days. When wearing the summer uniform — T-shirt and shorts — the soldier must keep his T-Shirt tucked into his shorts. Black or gray spandex shorts can be worn under the PT shorts as long as the spandex shorts are not visible below the PT shorts. Spandex shorts with decals, designs or logos are not allowed.

The Army sweatsuit — known as winter PTs — may be worn during cold weather periods at the discretion of a unit's commander. The black gloves and watch cap are optional, based on a unit's policy.

In both summer and winter uniforms, the soldier must wear plain white crew socks. Ankle length, calf length and colored socks are not allowed. Additionally, socks must be free of logos, stripes and decals.

A soldier must wear reflective belts as part of his PT uniform when exercising or road marching during darkness or limited visibility. In the summer uniform, the soldier must wear the belt around his waist. In the winter uniform, the soldier must

wear the belt across his body from his right shoulder to his left hip. When road marching, the soldier must wrap the belt around his entire ruck sack.

Safety regulations

It is important for unit commanders to ensure PT programs are conducted safely, and follow the post guidelines, according to the regulation.

Unit runs must follow the prescribed routes and have a minimum of two forward road guards and two rear road guards. The road guards must wear reflective vests, and they must use cone flashlights with red or orange lenses during periods of limited visibility.

Traffic should not be stopped except at intersections and when it's required to ensure a soldier's safety.

A formation leader should position himself on the left side of the formation. He should not cross the road median or place himself in the line of oncoming traffic.

Soldiers who fall out of PT runs must be collected in a follow-on formation. The regulation encourages ability run groups to minimize fall outs and allow most soldiers to succeed.

Additionally, units are encouraged to call cadence while running. However, units will not use abusive, profane, or sexist language while singing cadence.

PT areas

Fort Stewart is divided into two areas for PT. The regulation states all PT will be conducted in one of those two areas, and crossing between the two areas is prohibited.

Area 1 is west of Gulick Avenue, north from West 6th Street. McFarland Avenue is closed to traffic from West 18th Street down to West 6th Street, with no traffic allowed on the 15th Street to 6th Street loop.

The second area is the National Guard training area on the east side of post. The fire lane, from 18th Street to 6th Street, will only be used for one-way formation running and for profile walkers in a southeast direction.

Harmon Avenue is off limits to all runners.

Formation running is restricted to the designated routes. All other routes are off limits to running formations due to the high volume of traffic.

The regulation states all units must avoid the following areas:

- (a) All of Gulick Avenue.
- (b) All of Harmon Avenue from Hase Road.
- (c) All of Troupe Avenue from East 4th Street
- (d) All of Wilson Avenue.
- (e) All on-post housing areas.

Driving routes

Driving on post during PT hours takes some extra caution. All privately-owned vehicles that need to pass soldiers in a PT formation should be handled by unit road guards.

The speed limit while passing troops in formation is 10 mph. Also, the speed limit on Wilson Avenue is 15 mph during PT hours.

West 18th, 13th, and 6th streets are closed to cross traffic between Wilson and Gulick Avenues.

Gulick and Harmon Avenues are the major routes for personnel entering or exiting the main post area from east and west during PT hours. All personnel residing off-post should use those routes.

Special events

Units planning to conduct special events, such as brigade or battalion sized runs, marathons, or relays

along PT routes must coordinate traffic control measures with the Provost Marshal Office no later than two weeks in advance.

Events to be conducted on routes not typically designated for PT must be submitted to the (ACofS, G3,) no later than three weeks in advance for coordination and approval by the Command Group. In either case, the request should specify the type of event and route, the date and time, and the military police support desired.

Hunter Army Airfield

There are also PT guidelines for Hunter Army Airfield. The post's size and the density of traffic presents a special problem to running formations.

It is important for officers and noncommissioned officers to exercise extreme caution while leading formations.

There will be no formation running on Wilson Boulevard, Gannem Avenue or Duncan Drive at any time. The housing areas are off limits to running formations as well.

Units in the northeast portion on HAAF are encouraged to use Strachan Drive and adjoining roads and trails for running. Units in the southern portion of HAAF are encouraged to use those areas presenting the least danger to running formations and at the least hindrance to traffic.

PT will not be conducted on South Perimeter Road from Wilson Road to and including Rio Road due to heavy traffic flow, limited visibility and high speed limits.

Failure to follow the uniform guidelines or the traffic routes during the PT hour is punishable by the Uniform Code of Military Justice.

PT uniform tips

The PT T-shirt must be tucked into the PT shorts.

In the summer uniform a reflective PT belt must be worn when a soldier is exercising in times of darkness or limited visibility. In the summer uniform, the belt must be worn around the waist. In the winter uniform the belt must be worn from the right shoulder to the left hip.

Plain white crew socks must be worn with the summer and winter uniform. Ankle length, calf length and colored socks are not allowed.



VISIT

from page 1A

“It’s an excellent power projection platform. You get to see great soldiers at Fort Stewart!”

Hinesville and surrounding communities were also cited by Helmly as being one of the reasons that Fort Stewart is so successful for both Reservists and active-duty soldiers. He was gracious for support given to the troops here.

“It makes you proud to be an American,” he said

Helmly reminded soldiers of the Army Reserve of the current state of heightened security in the U.S. and his intent to ensure that they are prepared for mobilization or deployment.

“Keep yourself ready, keep your family affairs ready,” he said.

Before he departed, Helmly told Marrero and other members of the staff how important the role of the NCO is in reference to the success of the Army.

“The key ingredient is the “buck” sergeant or the staff sergeant. They’re the ones who have the most direct impact on the soldier,” he said.

For such a short visit at Fort Stewart, Helmly said he felt the great sense of welcome, that permanent party feel.

“I’ve seen the U.S. Army at it’s best, training for war,” he said.



Sgt. Sam Hoffman

Lt. Gen. James Helmly and Col. Edwin Marrero, talk to Master Sgt. Armondo Maiz, NCOIC common tasks training.

ALERT

from page 1A

A flexible defense allows the MPs to adapt to unexpected changes swiftly. Making security measures hard to predict protects individuals from unforeseen attacks. Principally, the Department of Homeland Security advises an individual should practice personal security as they would for criminal activity such as mug-gings or burglaries.

Report suspicious activity immediately. Call 911 if there is suspicious activity in the neighborhood. According to Rogish, some citizens will dismiss or ignore suspicious activities. “The tips that stop the next terror-ist attack could come from anyone,” Rogish said. He pointed out the MPs would rather get calls on innocent activities than to get no calls at all.

At Fort Stewart, be alert for changes in traffic patterns. Avoid peak hours and try to

car pool whenever possible. Managers and leaders are encouraged to keep a flexible schedule to help their employees enter and exit the post during non-peak hours.

“Personnel living off post need to imple-ment individual protective measures,” said Rogish. If staying in a hotel, do not give room numbers to strangers, keep curtains drawn and the door locked. Try to keep the room looking occupied by leaving a light on even when you are not there. Utilize the “Do Not Disturb” sign or keep the television on when not in.

Be wary of deliveries and pick-ups from companies such as UPS or FedEx. It was recently discovered UPS uniforms were being sold over the Internet. Check for valid identification. Companies such as UPS only make deliveries or pick-ups with company vehicles.

Fear can be this country’s worst enemy. Knowledge equals security, which helps MPs and civilian police maintain a safe envi-ronment. Interacting with the community keeps an individual aware of his or her sur-roundings. Keep a watchful eye for the sus-picious and unusual.

Web sites with information about personal security

www.whitehouse.gov/homeland/
www.fema.gov
www.fbi.gov
www.atf.treas.gov

RETIREMENT

from page 1A

will be scheduled soon, but the priority is senior personnel, who are about to retire, said Army officials.

Messages explaining what DIEMS is and how soldiers can check and change their dates if necessary will be e-mailed to soldiers’ Army Knowledge Online accounts, said William Hursh, a human resource specialist with Retirement Services in the Office of the Deputy Chief of Staff, G1.

DIEMS determines what retirement plan soldiers fall under. Soldiers with a DIEMS date of Sept. 8, 1980 and earlier qualify for Final Pay, which is 50 percent of their basic pay and has the largest payout, Dean said.

“Soldiers most likely to be affected negatively if their DIEMS dates are wrong are the ones getting ready to retire now or very soon,” Dean said. “If in their records we have their basic active service date instead of their initial entry date, they may fall under the High 3 Plan. However, it’s the more generous Final Pay plan they really qualify for.”

Congress created another retirement plan Sept. 9, 1980, which is called the High 3 Plan. It is 50 percent of the average of a soldier’s highest 36 months of service. If a sergeant first class with 20 years of service retired today under the Final Pay plan, he would receive \$1,591, said Hursh. However, if he retired under the High 3 plan, he would receive \$1,432 a month, he added.

There are three retirement plans soldiers could fall under. The third plan is the Redux plan, which Congress created Aug. 1, 1986. It’s 40 percent of the average of a soldier’s highest three earning years, and includes decreased cost of living allowances.

In October 1999 to get more individuals to stay in the military, Congress moved everyone with a DIEMS date of Aug. 1, 1986 and later back into the High 3 plan. However, at 15 years of active-duty service, those individuals who are eligible to serve at least five more years have the option to accept the Redux plan and receive a \$30,000 Career Status Bonus.

Last January 108 soldiers were given CSB bonuses, but because of wrong DIEMS dates they now owe the government \$30,000.

“Because their basic active service dates was written down as their DIEMS dates, they were offered the CSB under the Redux plan,” Dean said. “However, they weren’t eligible for that plan and now they have to pay back the full amount before taxes.”

Only one soldier was able to pay the bonus back after Defense Finance and Accounting Service discovered the payments had been made mistakenly, said Susan Dyer, a human resource specialist with Retirement Services.

“The erroneous payments were the catalyst that caused us to freeze the system so that only the best dates could be entered at the highest level,” Dean said, and no one at the installation could over-write those dates.”

Only personnel at the Enlisted Records and Evaluation Center will be able to change dates for enlisted soldiers and the Officer Personnel Management Division will handle officer dates.

“Soldiers can speed up the process by checking their Leave and Earning Statements under the DIEMS block, Dean said. “If the infor-mation is not correct they should start locating verification documents such as contracts or letters from the West Point Academy.”

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POLICE REPORTS

- **Subject:** Sergeant, 29-year-old male, 24th Corps Support Group
- **Charges:** Improper U-Turn
- **Location:** Fort Stewart
- **Subject:** Sergeant, 24-year-old female, Division Support Command
- **Charges:** Driving while license suspended
- **Location:** Hinesville
- **Subject:** Sergeant, 25-year-old male, 2nd Brigade
- **Charges:** Driving while license suspended, improper lane change
- **Location:** Hinesville
- **Subject:** Civilian, 25-year-old male
- **Charges:** Driving while license suspended
- **Location:** Fort Stewart
- **Subject:** Civilian, 27-year-old female
- **Charges:** Driving while license suspended
- **Location:** Fort Stewart
- **Subject:** Private First Class, 29-year-old male, Aviation Brigade
- **Charges:** Aggravated assault
- **Location:** Fort Stewart
- **Subject:** Specialist, 20-year-old female, Division Support Command
- **Charges:** Criminal damage to property 2nd degree
- **Location:** Hinesville
- **Subject:** Civilian, 21-year-old male
- **Charges:** Criminal trespassing, driving while license suspended, no proof of insurance
- **Location:** Fort Stewart
- **Subject:** Specialist, 25-year-old female, separate battalion
- **Charges:** Failure to yield right of way
- **Location:** Fort Stewart
- **Subject:** Civilian, 21-year-old
- **Charges:** Driving while license revoked
- **Location:** Fort Stewart
- **Subject:** Specialist, 22-year-old male, 24th Corps Support Group
- **Charges:** Driving under the influence, speeding
- **Location:** Savannah
- **Subject:** Private 2, 19-year-old male, 24th Corps Support Group
- **Charges:** Driving under the influence
- **Location:** Savannah
- **Subject:** Corporal, 22-year-old male, separate battalion

- **Charges:** Obstruction
- **Location:** Savannah
- **Subject:** Private, 23-year-old male, 24th Corps Support Group
- **Charges:** Simple assault, criminal trespass
- **Location:** Savannah
- **Subject:** Civilian, 55-year-old male
- **Charges:** Speeding 70/55, Driving while license suspended
- **Location:** Fort Stewart
- **Subject:** Specialist, 33-year-old male, Division Support Command
- **Charges:** Driving under the influence, failure to maintain lane
- **Location:** Hinesville
- **Subject:** Private First Class, 21-year-old female, separate battalion
- **Charges:** Consumption of alcohol on city streets, disorderly conduct
- **Location:** Savannah
- **Subject:** Private First Class, 20-year-old female, 24th Corps Support Group
- **Charges:** Indecent exposure
- **Location:** Savannah
- **Subject:** Family member, 28-year-old female
- **Charges:** Failure to yield right of way
- **Location:** Hunter Army Airfield
- **Subject:** Specialist, 24-year-old male, separate battalion
- **Charges:** Driving under the influence (refusal), driving under the influence (less safe), following too closely
- **Location:** Savannah
- **Subject:** Petty Officer 3, 23-year-old male, separate battalion
- **Charges:** Driving under the influence, speeding
- **Location:** Savannah
- **Charges:** Driving under the influence, speeding 62/45, driving while license suspended, no proof of insurance
- **Location:** Hinesville
- **Subject:** Private First Class, 29-year-old, separate battalion
- **Charges:** Driving while license suspended,

- defective equipment
- **Location:** Fort Stewart
- **Subject:** Private, 23-year-old male, 1st Brigade
- **Charges:** Failure to appear
- **Location:** Hinesville
- **Subject:** Private First Class, 22-year-old male, Division Support Command
- **Charges:** Failure to appear
- **Location:** Hinesville
- **Subject:** Specialist, 20-year-old male, 24th Corps Support Group
- **Charges:** Damage to government property
- **Location:** Hunter Army Airfield
- **Subject:** Civilian, 42-year-old male
- **Charges:** Following too closely
- **Location:** Fort Stewart
- **Subject:** Corporal, 23-year-old male, separate battalion
- **Charges:** Failure to obey a lawful order or regulation, driving on post suspension, speeding 71/55
- **Location:** Fort Stewart
- **Subject:** Specialist, 21-year-old male, Division Artillery
- **Charges:** Larceny of private property, conspiracy to commit insurance fraud
- **Location:** Fort Stewart
- **Subject:** Staff Sergeant, 28-year-old male, Division Artillery
- **Charges:** False official statement, false report of a crime
- **Location:** Fort Stewart
- **Subject:** Specialist, 23-year-old female, separate battalion
- **Charges:** Driving while license suspended
- **Location:** Fort Stewart
- **Subject:** Civilian, 19-year-old female
- **Charges:** Failure to yield the right of way
- **Location:** Fort Stewart

- **Subject:** Specialist, 20-year-old male, 1st Brigade
- **Charges:** Wrongful possession of marijuana, underage drinking
- **Location:** Fort Stewart
- **Subject:** Civilian, 19-year-old male
- **Charges:** Underage drinking, wrongful possession of marijuana
- **Location:** Fort Stewart
- **Subject:** Sergeant, 41-year-old male, separate battalion
- **Charges:** Disorderly conduct
- **Location:** Fort Stewart
- **Subject:** Sergeant, 29-year-old male, 1st Brigade
- **Charges:** Indecent assault
- **Location:** Fort Stewart
- **Subject:** Private, 23-year-old male, 24th Corps Support Group
- **Charges:** Wrongful use of marijuana
- **Location:** Hunter Army Airfield
- **Subject:** Private 2, 22-year-old male, 24th Corps Support Group
- **Charges:** Wrongful use of marijuana
- **Location:** Hunter Army Airfield
- **Subject:** Private, 21-year-old male, 24th Corps Support Group
- **Charges:** Wrongful use of marijuana
- **Location:** Hunter Army Airfield
- **Subject:** Private First Class, 22-year-old female, 24th Corps Support Group
- **Charges:** Improper left turn
- **Location:** Fort Stewart
- **Subject:** Specialist, 20-year-old male, 24th Corps Support Group
- **Charges:** Driving while license suspended
- **Location:** Fort Stewart
- **Subject:** Civilian, 26-year-old female
- **Charges:** Failure to maintain lane
- **Location:** Fort Stewart
- **Subject:** Civilian, 50-year-old male
- **Charges:** Duty upon striking
- **Location:** Fort Stewart
- **Subject:** Private First Class, 20-year-old male, Engineer Brigade
- **Charges:** Shoplifting
- **Location:** Fort Stewart

MAIL

from page 5A

I represent a charitable/school/church organization and we wish to send letters of support or care packages to soldiers of the deployed 3rd Inf. Div. (Mech.). Is this allowed? Regrettably, this is not allowed due to the threat of terrorist attacks through the mail. You may send an E-Mail message instead. Visit the Operation Dear Abby web site at <http://anyservicemember.navy.mil> to send the E-Mail message. That web site has been established specifically for charitable/school/church organizations and private citizens to send messages of support to our deployed soldiers. This does not apply if you are sending mail to a specific soldier by name.

Do I have to put postage on mail going to Kuwait? Yes. If you are sending mail to Kuwait, you must pay for the postage. Many individuals are misinformed about the special "Free" mail service that has been approved for all soldiers deployed for Operation Enduring Freedom. This free mail service applies only to letters and cassette tapes weighing 13 ounces or less and mailed by the soldier from the deployment location. It does not apply to mail being sent to a deployed soldier.





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3ID IN BRIEF

Stewart

Wives of Warriors

Fort Stewart Chaplains and 2nd BCT Spouses Prayer Group invite you to a two-day conference with “Wives of Warriors — Connected by Hope.” There will be several workshops to choose from with discussion time built-in. The conference is scheduled 6:30 to 9 p.m., March 28, and 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., March 29, at Club Stewart. Childcare is provided. Deadline for reservations is Tuesday. For more information or for conference and childcare reservations, call 877-7263 or 876-9232.

(OCS) Selection Board

HQDA has announced that the Officer Candidate School Selection Board for March 31 through April 1st has been cancelled. The next board is scheduled to be held in July.

For more information and criteria needed, call 767-1452 or 767- 5817.

Warrant officer board

HQDA has announced the Fiscal Year 2003 CW 3, 4 and 5 Promotion Board. The board is scheduled to meet April 29. The following are the zones of consideration for all grades:

- AV MOSs less 151A
- Above Zone — Sept. 30, 1997, and earlier
- Primary Zone — Oct. 1, 1997, through Sept. 30, 1998
- Below Zone — Oct. 1, 1998, through Sept. 30, 1999
- Tech MOSs plus 151A
- Above Zone — Sept. 30, 1998, and earlier
- Primary Zone — Oct. 1, 1998, through Sept. 30, 1999
- Below Zone — Oct. 1, 1999, through Sept. 30, 2000

Officers who will be considered by this board in all zones of consideration should immediately schedule themselves for a new digital photo.

In addition to having the new digital photo posted to their

files, officers will also receive two hard copies. These hard copy photos must be forwarded to PERSCOM in time for the promotion board.

For more information, call 767-3416 or 352-6296.

Join Special Forces

The Special Forces recruiting office is seeking professional enlisted and officer volunteers to join the ranks of one of America’s most premier fighting forces.

Available class date for Special Forces assessment and selection is March 23. Both combat and non-combat MOSs may apply.

To learn more about Special Forces, attend the weekly briefing at Hunter, noon and 2 p.m., Tuesdays at the Education Center or Fort Stewart, 10 a.m., 2 or 5:30 p.m., Wednesdays, at the Recruiting Office, Building 132 (Coastal Communications).

For more information, call 767-1857.

Continuing education

Family members, Army Reservists and National Guardsmen can continue their education during their relocation to Fort Stewart the following learning centers, regardless of their specific unit.

Classrooms are also available for training and FRG meetings. For additional information about these locations or continuing education call the Main Education Center at 767-8331.

2003 Women's Conference

Army Community Service is inviting ladies of the community to join the group for the 2003 Women's Conference to be held at Fort Stewart and Hunter Army Airfield.

The Fort Stewart conference is 8:30 a.m. to 3 p.m., Friday at the Community Activity Center. For more information call Linda McKnight, ACS, at 767-5058

Hunter

Hunter Club

Every Wednesday, the Hunter Club will be serving Grill Beef Strip Steak with Saut’eed Onions, Baked Potato, Side Salad, and Drink for \$6.50.

NCO and Officer Calls every Friday from 4 to 8 p.m., except training holidays.

Catering is available for any function. The Hunter Club is open to the public. For reservations, call 353-7923 or 352-5270.

Army Education Center

The Army Education Center is sponsoring a Pell Grant/Financial Aid Workshop, Wednesday, at the Army Education Center, Building 1290.

Correspondence Courses

Do you need promotion points? Visit the Hunter Education Center to sign up for Army Correspondence Courses. Call 352-6130 for more information.

Continuing education

Family members, Army Reservists and National Guardsmen can continue their education during their relocation to Hunter Army Airfield, regardless of their specific unit, at the Hunter Army Airfield Education Center, Building 1290. For more information, call 352-6130. Classrooms are also available for training and FRG meetings. For additional information about these locations, or the ACES program, call the Main Education Center at 352-6130.

After-school Program

The Hunter Youth Center is now signing up students in the 6th grade level and higher for a free After-School Program.

The program offers field trips, homework help, computer labs, crafts, cooking, sports and fitness, as well as Boys and Girls Club programs.

1st- through 5th-graders may

also sign up, however, space is limited. Those who are interested can register at Building. 1286.

Volunteer Opportunities Fair

A Volunteer Opportunities Fair is scheduled for Thursday March 27 at Hunter Club from 9 a.m. to noon. All ages are welcome. For more information, contact Vickie Wiginton, Fort Stewart ACS, at 767-5058/5059 or the School Liaison Office at 767-6071/6533.

Hunter Outdoor Recreation

Hunter Outdoor Recreation has scheduled eight-hour safety classes for the following days: Saturday, April 19, Aug. 16 and 30, Sept. 6 and 20, Oct. 4 and 18, Nov. 8 and 22, and Dec. 13. No classes will be held in May, June or July. For more information call Pass & Permit at 767-5032.

Phatt Katz Comedy Show

The Phatt Katz Comedy Run will present shows at the Hunter Club on Wednesday starting at 9:30 p.m. Performances will feature two comedians and one headliner.

Doors open at 8:30 p.m. Tickets are \$10 in advance and \$15 at the door. For reservations call 912-269-0277.

First Steps Program

The First Steps Program needs volunteers. This is a program that provides information and support to expectant and new parents stationed at Hunter. Volunteers make home visits to expectant parents and provide a 12 month phone call follow up. Volunteers are paid mileage reimbursement and enjoy flexible hours. For more information, call 756-6516

Newcomer's briefing

There is a newcomer’s briefing 9:30 a.m. every Wednesday at Building 1290 for newly arrived soldiers and their families. For more information, call 352-6816

Winn Army Community Hospital

Tuttle Shuttle

Transportation to Winn Army Community Hospital from Tuttle Army Health Clinic is now available through the Tuttle Shuttle. The shuttle runs Monday through Friday. The pick-up point is the front desk.

Schedule for Tuttle transport is:

Depart Tuttle at 7 a.m. - arrive at Winn at 8 a.m.; Depart Winn at 8:15 a.m. - arrive at Tuttle at 9:15 a.m.; Depart Tuttle at 9:30 p.m. - arrive at Winn at 10:30 p.m.; Depart Winn at 10:45 p.m. - arrive at Tuttle at 11:45 a.m.; Depart Tuttle 1:15 p.m. - arrive at Winn 2:15 p.m.; Depart Winn at 2:30 p.m. - arrive at Tuttle at 3:30 p.m.

Active-duty Mental Exams

The Behavioral Health Clinic will conduct Active-duty Mental Status Exams 1 to 1:30 p.m. Monday through Friday. All patients with a completed FL92-R who sign in by 1:30 p.m. will be seen. This exam is not a treatment evaluation. All soldiers E4 and below must be accompanied by an E5 or higher. For more information, call 370-6100.

Coping Support Groups

The Coping Support Group is for adults having difficulty dealing with the stress in their life. The group meets 9 to 10:30 a.m. every Monday. The Coping Support Group for Children meets 3:30 to 4:30 p.m. for children ages 6 to 9 and 3:30 to 4:30 Thursday for children ages 10 to 13. For more information, call 370-6100.

TRICARE Hours of Operation

The TRICARE Service Center is open 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday. For more information, call 370-6015.

EFMP Enrollment Orientation

The Exceptional Family Member Program will be holding an enrollment orientation from 1:30 to

3 p.m. March 27 in Winn’s Patriot Auditorium. Meet other families and learn about other community support services. For more information, call 370-6505.

Expectant Siblings Class

The next Expectant Siblings Class will be 5 p.m. March 26. This class helps prepare children, ages 4 to 12, for the arrival of a new brother or sister. To register, call 767-6633 or 1-800-652-9221.

“Take Care of Yourself” classes

The next Winn “Take Care of Yourself” class will be 11 a.m. to noon March 26 at the TRICARE Services Center. Tuttle’s class will be 10 to 11 a.m. March 26. The class gives an overview of how to use the “Take Care of Yourself” book. Upon completing the class, you will receive a card that allows you to get over-the-counter medications from Winn or Tuttle. To register for the class in the TRICARE Services Center, call 368-3048. To register for Tuttle’s class, call 767-6633.

Bereavement Support Group

A Sunrise Bereavement Support Group will be held 7 to 8 p.m. April 8 in Winn’s chapel. The group is open to beneficiaries who have lost a loved one. For more information, call 370-6661 or 370-6779.

Tobacco Cessation

Tobacco Cessations classes will be available at Winn 1:30 to 3:30 p.m. or 6 to 8 p.m. Thursday starting April 3. To register, call 370-5071. The class will be available at Tuttle 1 to 3 p.m. Wednesdays starting April 2. To register, call 767-6633 or 1-800-652-9221.

Expectant Parenting Class

The next Expectant Parenting Class will be 6 p.m. April 1. This 4-week class helps patients to understand labor, delivery and newborn care. To register, call 767-6633.

New shuttle system to help soldiers ‘Catch a Ride’

Sgt. Raymond Piper

Editor

Soldiers now have a new way to “catch a ride” around post through the Military Installation Transportation System, known as MITS.

Two buses will run Monday to Friday 7 a.m. to 6 p.m.

The evening bus will run 6:30 to 10 p.m. Monday to Thursday, 6:30 to midnight Friday, 9 a.m. to midnight Saturday and 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. Sunday.

A bus is scheduled to leave from the PX

every half hour and will stop at bus stops at the KFOR billets, National Guard billets, CIF, the DIVARTY area, Marne Chapel, Military Clothing and Sales, the Newman Gym area, PX, ACS, Winn Army Community Hospital, mobilization center, SRC area, Welcome Center and the Legal Assistance Office.

“We’re having the bus drivers talk to the soldiers riding the buses so we can conduct an AAR (after action review) next week to see how we can make improvements,” said Master Sgt. Kevin P. Travis, transportation coordinator for the Deployment Control

Headquarters. “If needed we’ll implement more stops.”

One of the reasons the MITS was set up was for the safety of the soldiers, said Travis.

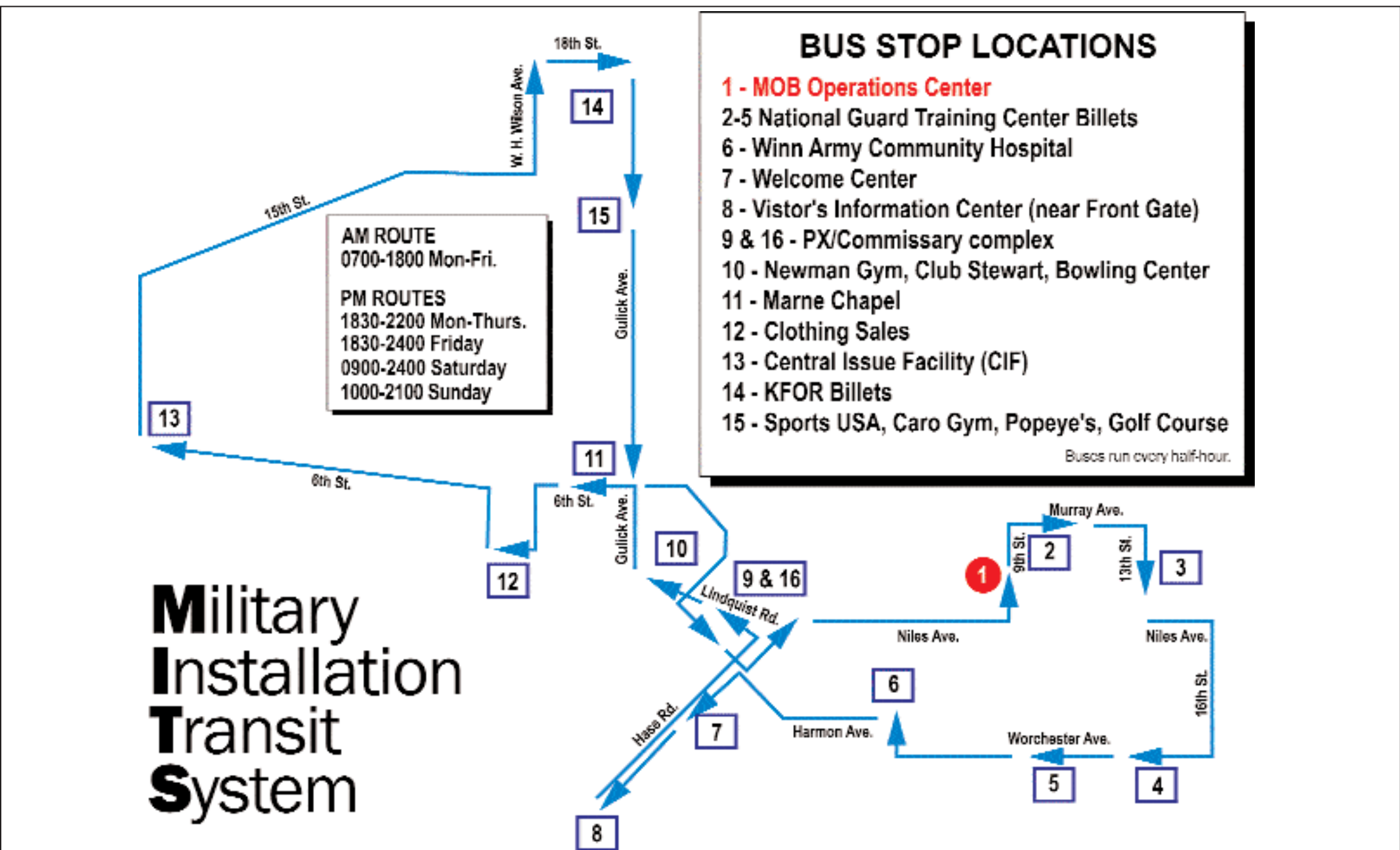
“Before the system, the soldiers in the National Guard Area would have to walk wherever they wanted to go. Since there are very few street lights out there, its pitch black which makes it very hard to see a soldier in BDUs walking,” Travis said.

One of the benefits of the shuttle bus will be that it will free up the buses that are used to transport large groups of soldiers to and

from training and the Mobilization Center so they won’t have to take small groups to CIF or the SRC site, Travis said.

The large passenger buses transport large groups of mobilizing soldiers to different training sites, such as the Common Task Training Site, various small arms live-fire ranges, driver training and the mobilization center.

Although the need for buses for training will dictate whether both buses will run, Travis said, “We will do everything we can to keep these buses running and one bus will always start running on time.”



LIFE & TIMES

B SECTION

On Post

FRG activities

• **HHC 2nd Bde.**

A walk together is scheduled for 6 p.m., Tuesday, at Quick Track. Also, a fire-house tour is scheduled at noon, Saturday at Fort Stewart Fire Station 1.

Spouses' night out

A Spouses' Night Out will be held 6 to 10 p.m., Friday at Club Stewart's Patriot Corner. There will be line dancing and ballroom dancing lessons at 7:30 p.m.

There will also be board games, music, snacks, cards and a beverage station. Child care is available, call CYS at 767-3203 for child care requirements.

Tax assistance available

Get free tax assistance at the Marne Tax Assistance Center. The center is open 9 to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday at Building 9611 in the National Guard Training Center area. Call 767-3909 for more information.

Toastmasters

Whether you're a professional, student, stay-at-home parent or retiree, Toastmasters is the best way to improve your communication skills.

The Dog-Faced Soldiers Toastmasters International Club meets noon every second and fourth Wednesday at Club Stewart and is open to everyone.

For more information, call 767-0383 or email at Bowenja@stewart.army.mil.

Bi-annual Block Party

There will be a Bi-annual Block Party, 11 a.m. to 3 p.m., April 5 at the Fort Stewart Army Community Service, Building 470. There will be games, food and free entertainment.

Talent Search

Family Advocacy is looking for talented people to participate in our bi-annual Block Party, April 5. All talents and ages are welcome.

For more information, call 767-5058.

Scholarship announcement

The Fort Stewart Enlisted Spouses' Club is pleased to announce the application process has begun for the "Rita Ackerman Continuing Education Scholarship." this merit-based scholarship is available only to spouses of active, retired or deceased enlisted soldiers in the Fort Stewart area.

Applications are available at the Education Center on post or at Savannah Tech. All completed applications must be postmarked by April 1 and mailed to Maggie Roberts, Scholarship Committee Chairperson, P.O. Box 3069, Fort Stewart, GA 31315.

Child Walk

There will be a Child Abuse Prevention Month Child Walk 9 a.m. to 11 p.m., April 5 at ACS. Families and organizations are welcome.

Off Post

Historic Marker Dedication

There will be a Historic Marker Dedication of the 16.5 Mile Historic Savannah-Ogeechee Canal Corridor 11 a.m., April 5 at the SOC Museum and Nature Center. There will be a arts, crafts and baked goods sale and a Bull Roast Celebration from noon to 3 p.m. This event is free and open to the public. For more information, call 748-8068.

To publish a brief in The Frontline, call 767-3440 or fax us at 767-5979. Deadline for briefs is Friday at noon.

Read Across America Day kicks off Earth Day activities



Col. Gerald Poltorak, installation commander, reads to a group of 1st graders at Brittin Elementary School March 3 during Read Across America Day.

Anna Stager

Special to the Frontline

Installation Commander Col. Gerald J. Poltorak and Hunter Army Airfield Garrison Commander Lt. Col. Gerald Davie took time out of their busy schedules March 3rd to promote reading and environmental awareness.

Poltorak visited two first grade classrooms at Brittin Elementary and read Dr. Seuss' "The Lorax", which provides an ecological warning and conservation message in the traditional Seuss style. Later in the day, Davie read The Berenstain Bears "Don't Pollute (Anymore)" to the after-school students at Hunter's Youth Center, again reinforcing the old adage "Don't Fool with Mother Nature."

For the second year in a row, the Directorate of Public Works' Environmental and Natural Resources Division is part of the reading campaign, which also kicks off their own Environmental Awareness campaign.

Read Across America Day is the National Education Association's largest one-day literacy celebration, and the event is annually held in conjunction with Dr. Seuss' birthday. On-post schools annually participate in Read Across America Day and encourage various community members to participate by reading to the students throughout the day.

The DPW ENRD looks forward to Read Across America Day as the anchor to its Annual Environmental Awareness Campaign during the month of April. In observance of Earth Day 2003, the DPW ENRD will again be participating in the Hunter Annual Community Day, as well as teaming with Fort Stewart schools to provide a fun-filled day of learning through the "Environmental Passport."

Activities for soldiers at Stewart, Hunter

Nancy Gould

DCAS Marketing

The Directorate of Community Activities and Services, DCAS, has several recreational facilities and featured events at MWR facilities available to active-duty Army Reservists, National Guardsmen and soldiers at Fort Stewart and Hunter Army Airfield.

Spring scheduling for basketball, volleyball, softball, racquetball and tennis teams is now complete and those interested are welcome to participate. Call Randy Walker, DCAS interim sports director, at (912) 767-8326 to sign up or for additional information. Scheduling information follows:

Basketball March 3 to 31
Basketball Tournament April 4
Volleyball March 3 to April 11
Volleyball Tournament April 14 to 17

Softball March 3 to June 26
Softball Tournament . . July 7 to 10
Racquetball June 14 to 15
Tennis League June 9 to 26

Pool passes will be available May 23. Call Andy Arrington, DCAS Aquatic Director, (912) 767-3034, for more information.

Organized sports are now scheduled for reservists, guardsmen and soldiers. Equipment and referees are provided — those interested only need to show up.

Fridays at Newman Gym, basketball is scheduled 6 p.m. to 10 p.m. Saturdays at the Sports Complex, building 471, (between the PX and the hospital), reservists, guardsmen, and soldiers can play softball, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., and flag football, 1 p.m. to 7 p.m. Softball is scheduled Sundays, 1 p.m. to 7 p.m., at the same location. For additional information call DCAS Sports Director Perry Yawn at (912) 767-8326.

Free golf lessons are held at Taylors Creek Golf Course Sundays, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., and are taught by Charlie Dobberty, the course's PGA golf professional. Four-man scrambles are scheduled Saturdays at 1:30 p.m. and Dobberty makes up each team. For information call (912) 767-4866.

If you like to bowl, why not attend the 9-Pin No Tap Tournaments at Marne Lanes on Saturdays, 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. For information, contact Jerry Evans, Marne Lanes manager at (912) 767-4866.

Since the weather is getting warmer and the days longer, units may want to use picnic areas Fort Stewart and Hunter Army Airfield. See the chart below for specific information.

To reserve the picnic areas, call Susan Chipple, Outdoor Recreation Center director, at (912) 767-8609. The center also rents boats, trailers, and kayaks, as well as small items such as cookers, pots and pans.

Recreation facilities

Picnic Areas	Covered	Enclosed	Grills	Children's Play Areas	Restrooms	Cleanup Facilities	Sports Areas
Lotts Island	6	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Basketball
Sports Complex/ACS	1	No	1	Yes	No	No	Softball Fields
Holbrook Pond	3	1	3	3	Portolets	No	No
Weaver Picnic Area	1	No	1	Yes	Portolets	No	Tennis
Pineview Lake	2	No	No	No	No	No	No
Glisson Pond	1	No	No	No	Portolets	No	No

NCO of the Year



Laurie Kemp

Command Sgt. Maj. Althea Dixon, Southeast Regional Medical Command's command sergeant major, presents a plaque to Staff Sgt. Uriah Popp for winning the Southeast Regional Medical Command's NCO of the Year Feb. 13. Popp competed against six other NCOs in weapons qualification, day and night land navigation, and written and oral exams.

CYS new fee policy

Nancy Gould

DCAS Marketing

Child and Youth Services, CYS, implemented a new fee policy and fee schedule on March 1.

The Department of Defense, furnishes the CYS program with new fee guidance and established fee ranges each year. Those ranges are based on FORSCOM, Army, and surrounding community fee averages.

Category I income, now includes patrons with a total family income of \$28,000 or less. Category II includes patrons with a total family income of \$28,001 to \$34,000 per year. Registration fees (for example, \$15 per child in a family or \$35 if the family registers more than two children), and Child Development Center hourly care fees remain the same as last year. School Age Services, hourly fees for occasional users increase from \$1.25 to \$1.50 per hour for Category I. Hourly fees for SAS and all other categories will increase from \$1.50 to \$2 per hour for occasional users.

The Fort Stewart/Hunter CYS programs have a reciprocal agreement with other Army installations. Parents are only required to pay for registration one time each year. When parents change duty stations they must pres-

ent the CYS identification card for their child and the receipt that shows they paid the registration fee at another duty station. Registration is still required, but there is no cost if the child was registered within that year.

Programs offered at the Youth Center for middle school and teenage youth are free. Some activities require a minimal entry fee to cover expenses, for example, dances and trips.

Youth attending middle school and teen programs must be registered with CYS. To provide incentive for teen involvement, teens that volunteer can register at no cost and get discounts to CYS activities that normally have an entry fee.

Children who require transportation to and from the program from Fort Stewart schools are required to pay a transportation fee.

Youth Services Sports fees remain \$20 per season. Coaches pay no fee for the first child registered. They pay half price for their other children registered to play the same sport.

Questions about fees should be directed to coordinators in the following programs, CYC, 767-6071, Child Development Centers 767-3202 and 352-6115, School Age and Youth Services, 767-5662 and 352-6075, or the Central Registration Office, 767-2312.

Hunter childcare — more than babysitting



Photos by Selathia Thacker

(Above) Left to right: Abigail LaBelle, Adelis Cruz, and Tylisha Gourdine, pre-kindergarteners, enjoy dramatic playtime together. (Left) Pre-kindergarteners enjoy arts and crafts together.



Nancy Gould

DCAS Marketing

When spouses leave their children at Hunter Army Airfield's Child Development Center, and Family Childcare, they get more than just a babysitting service. The developmental childcare provided by CDC and FCC builds life skills in children.

"Children learn to pour their own milk and to serve themselves at the dinner table instead of someone else doing it," said Joyce Cassino, FCC family care outreach worker. "That's a long way from babysitting."

The Child Development Center staff, comprised of 40 civilians and military spouses, gives the 122 children who stay there, the devoted care they need. The children range from six weeks to 5 years of age, and include older children who haven't started first grade yet. Besides daily care, the center provides before and after school care, called wrap-around room care, for school age children. Like other Georgia schools, the center's pre-kindergarten program accepts children by a lottery system.

According to Darnie Hampton, CDC director since December, additional staff will soon be hired and a "drop in" hourly room opened for children, 12 months to five years, from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Hourly slots have previously been limited to two in each of the center's five classrooms — infant, pre-toddler, toddler, pre-school, and kindergarten. For now, drop-in spots for children, infants to 12 months, are still limited to two spots in the infant room until the hourly room gets additional cribs, and other items it needs.

"We're doing everything we can to support the spouses of deployed soldiers," said Hampton. "When husbands are gone, their spouses' childcare options are limited. The drop in service will allow mothers to make doctor appointments and run errands without taking children along."

Other special childcare arrangements have been made recently for deployed soldiers' children. Childcare is free for families who get together for the Battalion Family Readiness Group, meetings each month thanks to Operation Enduring Freedom and Other Extraordinary Contingency Operation funds. It's also free the first Saturday of each month, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., for mothers to have personal time. On Fridays, at Ladies Night Out, from 6 p.m. to 10 p.m., childcare fees are reduced to \$1.50 per hour per child.

"My staff is really making the effort to support the families of deployed soldiers," said Hampton. "We're not doing our job if soldiers and their spouses are worrying about their children."

Hampton looks for ways to motivate, encourage, and reward her staff for their efforts. She formed committees recently headed by "subject matter experts" in specific areas such as safety. "The staff's vigilance in keeping up their areas or responsibility and spotting violations is amazing," she said. Recently, their efforts were recognized. The kitchen staff got a "commendable" rating from headquarters and classroom teachers got kudos for the anecdotal records they take

observing and documenting facts throughout the week about their children.

Wilma Sparks, training curriculum specialist for CDC staff and FCC homecare providers, said all childcare providers are trained extensively before they care for children. They learn Federal regulations and Standard Operating Procedures; how to plan appropriate age level activities; how to design learning environments; guidance techniques; health sanitation and nutrition; safety and emergency procedures; child abuse identification, reporting and prevention; special needs awareness and more. They also get yearly supplemental training — some worth college credit. Providers undergo extensive background checks and clearances before they can work at CDC or FCC.

"We give soldiers' children the best care available," said Cassino, who manages 11 FCC homes, on and off Hunter Army Airfield, staffed with active and retired military spouses whose average age is 23. Children kept in these homes range from four weeks (for dual or single military families) to 12 years of age.

"We have a great group of women," said Cassino, who works closely with providers as their "advocate" and sees them develop firsthand as independent contractors and as businesswomen, teachers, nurses, bookkeepers and in other areas of responsibility. They work hard to stay in compliance with federal regulations — and to make some money in the process.

"They don't get rich, but their earning potential instills pride and fuels incentive to continue the good work," said Cassino. Providers set their own fees, but they usually don't exceed those of CDC. They also set their own hours, which can vary among providers. They accommodate the odd hours and extra care that soldiers' children sometimes need. Many providers offer extended hourly care — services more than 12-hour days, overnight and weekends, which can be offered as short term care (up to 14 consecutive days). They also offer long-term care-services more than 14 days but do not exceed 60 consecutive days (without approved policy exceptions).

With additional training, FCC providers may also take in special needs children. And they often act as legal guardians for single and dual military spouses who need to deploy quickly or leave the area quickly due to emergencies. On many occasions, a provider will serve as an interim guardian for a child until a family member comes to get him.

FCC providers may offer hourly childcare to families without a long-term contract in place. However, children kept in homes at Hunter Army Airfield, as well as children at the Child Development Center, must be registered on post at the Child and Youth Services, Supplemental Programs and Services Registration office.

The CDC is open 6 a.m. to 6 p.m., (hourly care, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.) Mondays through Fridays and is closed all Federal holidays.

If you want information about the Family Childcare Program, call Joyce Cassino, 912-352-6064. Darnie Hampton, the Child Development Center director can be reached at 912-353-2743 to answer questions about the center's programs.

Brittin Elementary School Court of Character Academic Effort

Kindergarten

Rudy Belloc
Allisa Cassady
Mireya Claros
Robert Edwards
DeMarcus Evans
Nicholas Guillerault
Patrick Height
Mark Holland
Alaya Keane
Cathryn Kozlowski
Shana Lazenby
Joaquin Lemapu
Mario Manzano
Christian Melton
Melissa Moyett
Angelic Rideout
Raquel Riviere
Antevyon Spikes
Ashton Swinney
Montrel Wingate
Johnathan Atwood
Chelsea Austin
Justin Bidal
Omar Brown
Evangelyn Byczkoski
Kiersten Clark
Camron Clay
Desmond Cook
DaSean Freeman
Brandon Greene
Zachary Hightower
Markiesha James
Darby King
Emily Linden
Eric Marsden
Shondell Miles
Tami Myers
Linsi Raber
Madeline Rasor
Malique Richardson
Marcos Sanchez
Brittney Yetter
Adria Green
Chelsee Hendrickson
Chancey Heyward
Jasmin Hilton
Xavier Ingram
Christopher Johnson
Marvin Jones
Javon Martin
Reggie Neal

Whitney Nettles
Alexandria Schrick
Barick Watts
Brooke Young
Abby Heath
Xakari Berry
Jasin Martinez
Danielle Moore
Caitlyn Beck
Jalen Blackwell
KyAria Moses
ShyAnn Pennington
Haley Paul
Maryssa Bernard
DaVon Frazier
Malik Hill
Anthony Connor
Lamont Baker
Olaya Orozco

1st Grade

Muriel Grohmann
Alexys Rivera
Kennedy Miles
Andrew Facey
Keion Dodds
Antonia Jones
Joshua Krogmann
Katelyn Millett
Ashley Cooper
Matthew Deegan
Ja'Lan Herbin
Daniel Miller
Peter Oliver
Christopher Ripley
Rhea Smith
Erick Vergara
Jacob Bradrick
Angel Crouch
Rachael Dowd
James Easley
Kennedy Mullenix
Blair Young
Jessica Wilson
Maiya Bethea
Patrick Puranda
Shelby Seamone
Kyle Vallade

2ND Grade

Darien Anthony
Jessica Agbay

Kirshana Calhoun
Zachary Erwin
Kurtrell Jackson
Danard McLemore
Alinda Newby
Xavier Thrasher
Dan Huell
Cory Lazenby
Cassandra Pelton
Jessica Schrick
Tiara Anderson
Starry Brown
Christopher Guilfo
Tiana Ingram
Joshua Loper
Emily Staffa
Terry Willams
Royneisha Andrews
Sierra Austin
Nikolaus Berry
Larunda Easley
Nicole Johnson
Adam Martinez
Khandi Wright
Leahi Akao
Shaquana Gray
Perry McNeill
Deion Foster

3RD Grade

Janet Carrette
Jamie Curry
Kala Hendrickson
Alexis Kozlowski
DiTarius Neal
Derrick Slaughter
Tanisha Terrell
Devonte Roof
Zana Wilson
Gregory Brousseau
Darek Dennis
Miguel Ferrer
Aaron Gillen
Emily Heath
Victoria Peagler
Nicole Roxburgh
Markus Smith
Elayna Strachan
Dakari Towns
Ma'Tina Vereen
Myrisha Colston
Kristin Crawley

Earnest McGregor
Thomas Rasor
Chelsea Rivera
Stacy Smith
Natavia Townsend
Shayla Watts
Courtney Brown
Brittney Diggs
Laneisha DeMoss
Kristopher Duncan
Christen Hall
Jonathan Saavedra

4th Grade

Leon Howell
Ciana Lacuesta
Anetone Sailiata
Shelby Walker
Daniel Wiltshire
Kirstie Agbay
Taylor Barton
Andre Connor
Nichelle Fraiser
Jasmine Fulcher
Terrence Greene
Giancarlos Hernandez
Jay Ingram
Andea Lowe
Jason Martin
Di'Quan Neal
Indigo Pullen
Michael Rodriguez
Chris Staff
Garret Vallade
Jacklyn Viniegra
Kyle Weaver
Kadeshia Brown
Quierra Jones
Kathleen Whitefield
Brittney Guilfo
William Owens
Amber Grant
Elizabeth Styles
Margaret Whitfield

5th Grade

Cullie Alexander
Eleena Bucko
Nicholas Battyanyi
Andre Cook
Maria Galaviz
DeAnna Gatling

Josie Height
Andre Ingram
Danielle Jacobs
Tatiana Lambert
Kim McCaskill
Crystal Pryear
Monica Vargas
Ashley Ballaw
Alex Carpenter
Danielle Jackson
Natasha Lamica
Sarah Lovelady
Sacya Patterson
Adrienne Rasor
Steven Stokes
Leilany Rondur-Ruiz
Antonio Walton
Loriana Del Olmo
Amanda Gonzales
Karl Hunter
Zachary Loper
Dominik Marciano
Santana Postell
Patrice Puranda
Nichole Ripley
Lara Riviere
Keycha Rutherford
Patricia Warren
Javon Webb
Tyrisha Willis
Darren Wiltshire
Brandon Anderson
Kirkland Crocker
Danielle Jones
Keyyanna Jones
Brittney Kempson
John Landers
Jennifer Lazenby
Kaila Moses
Alicia Perez
Alexis Pritchard
Katie Robinson
Cassandra Tyler
Byron Weaver
Stanley White

6TH Grade

Brianna Blackwell
Laura Eschenbach
Phillip Paloma
Demetrius Stinson

— CHAPLAIN’S CORNER —

Why be afraid?

Chaplain (Maj.) Tim Bonner

751st Maintenance Battalion

Ever since the terrorist attacks on 9-11 a sense of fear has swept across our country that is still with us today. We’ve tried to take precautions to ensure safety. This uneasy feeling is very evident at entrances to military installations, where increased security measures are a constant reminder of our fear that the horrible events of that day could be repeated.

Americans fear other things, too. We’re afraid that gas prices will reach \$2 per gallon and limit our freedom to drive. Senior adults are concerned that Social Security will dry up, or that there won’t be enough health insurance to meet their needs. After Enron we all fear that our investments aren’t safe any more. The Columbine High School tragedy reminded us that our schools aren’t as safe as they used to be.

Here on Fort Stewart, soldiers who are deploying and the family of soldiers already deployed have legitimate fears about what might happen if war breaks out. These fears are all about things we can’t control. If we are all honest with ourselves, every one of us is afraid of something, and that fear affects the way we live our lives.

What does the Bible have to say about fear? Fear is a legitimate emotion-Bible characters beginning with Adam admitted that they were afraid. There is nothing wrong with feeling fearful in some circumstances; God gave us that emotion so we would protect ourselves from harm. Fear becomes a sin when it isn’t grounded in something reasonable, or when our fear becomes greater than our faith in God.

Here are a few scriptures dealing with the subject of fear that I hope will encourage you:

- **Psalm 27:3** — Though an host should encamp against me, ye heart shall not fear:

though war should rise against me, in this will I be confident.

- **Psalm 188:6** — The Lord is on my side; I will not fear: what can man do unto me?
- **Isaiah 12:2** — Behold, God is my salvation; I will trust, and not be afraid: for the Lord Jehovah is my strength and my song; he also is become my salvation.
- **2 Timothy 1:7** — For God hath not given us the spirit of fear, but of power, and of love, and of a sound mind.

What should we do when we feel afraid? First, ask yourself if the fear is reasonable or if the situation is something you have any control over. If the fear is unreasonable, then confess your lack of faith to God. If it is reasonable and you can’t control the outcome, then turn it over to God. Prayer, quoting scripture, and singing to the Lord will all help calm our fears and out us in a mindset of faith.

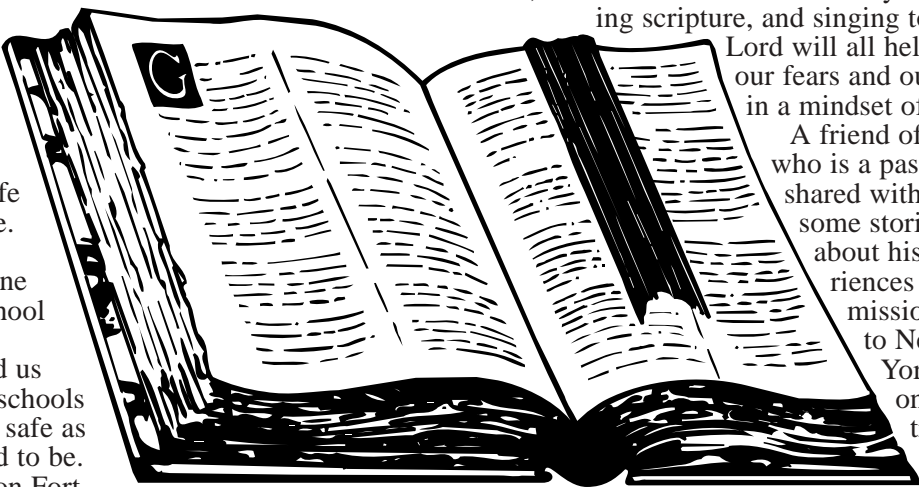
A friend of mine, who is a pastor, shared with me some stories about his experiences as a missionary to New York City on two trips after the World Trade Center attacks. He said that everyone he talked to was afraid. Many people were crying out to God for spiritual help.

His prescription to them for fear was prayer, scripture, and a reminder about God’s constant presence in our lives.

Remember, “What shall we say then to these things? If God be for us, then who can be against us?” (Romans 8:31)

As a Christian I believe that if you have a personal relationship with God through Jesus Christ as your Savior and Lord, then you have nothing to fear, in this life or in the life to come. Some of you reading this column may have a different understanding of what it means to have a relationship with God.

Regardless of our faith tradition we should turn our lives and our fears over to Him in faith, because God promises us “I will never leave you nor forsake you.” (Hebrews 11:5)



Worship Opportunities

Fort Stewart		
Catholic	Location	Time
Sunday Mass	Victory	9 a.m.
Sunday Mass	Victory	7 p.m.
Weekday Mass	Victory	11:45 a.m.
Protestant		
Sunday “Protestant Worship”	Marne	11 a.m.
Sunday Gospel Service	Victory	11 a.m.
Sunday Family Friendly	Vale	11 a.m.
Tuesday Healing Service	WACH	11:30 a.m.
American Samoan		
Sunday Worship	Victory	1 p.m.
Muslim		
Friday Jum’ah	Bldg. 9182	1:15 p.m.
Masjid (Daily)	Bldg. 9182	5:30 a.m.
Seventh Day Adventist		
Saturday Sabbath School	Vale	9:15 a.m.
Saturday Divine Worship	Vale	11 a.m.
Lutheran		
Sunday Worship	Marne	11 a.m.
Contemporary Service		
Sunday Worship	Marne	6 p.m.
Hunter Army Airfield		
Protestant		
Sunday Service	Post Chapel	11 a.m.



Pet of the Week

Conrad is a loveable four-year old house cat. He is very friendly and would make a great family pet.

If interested in adopting Conrad or any other dog or cat, call 767-4194 or stop by the clinic located at 461 W. Bultman Ave., Building 1180, Fort Stewart, Ga., 31314.



Sports & Fitness

On Post

Basketball courts closed
The Hunter gym's basketball courts are closed for renovations.

Tae Kwon Do lessons
Tae Kwon Do is available for children and adults. Classes are held 5 to 6 p.m. for children and 6 to 7 p.m. for teens and adults, Tuesday and Thursday at Fort Stewart Youth Services Center, Building 7338, Austin Road in Bryan Village next to the shoppette. The cost is \$30 per month. For more information, call Child and Youth Services at 767-2312.

Marne tournaments
A 9-pin, no-tap tournament will be held the first Saturday of every month at Marne Lanes. Sign up starts at 6:30 p.m. Bowling starts at 7 p.m. Cost is \$15 per person.

A scotch doubles tournament is held the third Saturday of every month at Marne Lanes. Bowling starts at 7 p.m. Cost is \$20 per couple. For more information, call 767-4866.

Newman offers training
The Newman Physical Fitness Center now offers personal-training consultations. Consultations consist of health screenings (body fat assessments), exercise prescription and nutritional counseling. Consultations are on appointment basis only. Persons desiring this service may contact the Newman Physical Fitness Center at 767-3031.

Golf course
Taylors Creek Golf Course offers Senior Blitz on Thursdays with a 9 a.m. tee off. They also offer a Dogfight Tournament at 7:30 a.m. and Men's Blitz at 1 p.m. on Saturdays and Men's Blitz at 1 p.m. on Sundays.

- Troops Tune Up, a soldiers free clinic, is held every Saturday from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.
- A Ladies Free Clinic is held every Wednesday from 10 a.m. to 11 a.m.
- Liberty High golf match is scheduled for Wednesday.
- A "Junior Golf Academy" is scheduled to begin in April and during the summer.

Anyone who wants to schedule a fundraising event for Family Support Groups, Unit Activities or a private organization is asked to contact Charlie Dobbertin at 767-2370.

Registration for girls sports
Registration began Feb. 1 for girls softball, T-ball, baseball and Track & Field. You can register your child 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. at Fort Stewart CYS, Building 443. All sports are open to children of active duty, retired military and DoD civilians. All children must be a registered member of Youth services and have physicals and proof of age to participate in Youth Services Sports Programs. The cost is \$20 for the first child and \$18 for each additional child. For more information, call 767-2312.

Off Post

Military night at the YMCA
The 1st and 3rd Friday of each month are Military Night at the YMCA. Show your Military ID and enjoy the Y free of charge from 4 to 10 p.m.

Baseball players wanted
If you are interested in playing baseball for a semi-pro baseball team, contact Art Lewis at 352-6749 or 767-6572, or James Simmons at 767-3031 or 369-3974. For more information, email simmonsh@yahoo.com

If you're interested in having your sports articles, commentaries or briefs posted in The Frontline, call 767-3440, or fax at 767-5979. Deadline is noon on Fridays.

Trotters up to old, new tricks



Photos by Pfc. Emily Danial

As part of the March 12 show, Globetrotters led children from the stands in a Big Wheel bike race around the court.

Soldier acts as honorary coach

Pfc. Emily Danial
Hunter Public Affairs Office

For 76 years, the Harlem Globetrotters have been mixing the game of basketball with pure, unadulterated goofiness and spreading it all over the world to the delight of spectators everywhere, and on March 12, they spread it to Savannah.

One resident of Hunter Army Airfield had the opportunity to be more than your average onlooker.

Staff Sgt. Lisa Whitters, Equal Opportunities Advisor at Hunter and self-proclaimed "NCAA fanatic," was invited by the Globetrotters to be the honorary coach of their exhibition opponents, the New York Nationals.

"I've never had the opportunity to coach," said Whitters. "The players were fantastic."

As coach for the night, Whitters sat on the Nationals' bench throughout the entire game and interacted with the players on a personal level. Interaction and crowd-pleasing, after all, is what has characterized Globetrotters games for years, and this game was no different.

The players were in their glory, combining hilarious antics with phenomenal basketball skills, pulling people (and their belongings) from the stands to involve them in the fun.

Paul "Showtime" Gaffney afforded the fans countless laughs during the course of the evening as he engaged in spontaneous horseplay with the referee, danced around the court with women from the stands (after borrowing their purses), and threw a bucket of water on those sitting in the front row of seats.

Mike "The Saint" St. Julien and his slam dunks shined through the night as he hung on the rim, almost at eye-level with the top of the backboard.

The players took time to play with their fans as well — one part of the show featured several children being invited out onto the court to participate in a Big Wheel bike race around the arena as enthusiastic Globetrotters egged them on.

Wun Versher, a Globetrotters "floor

man," said interacting with the children was one of his favorite parts of the game.

"In South Africa," he said, "The kids were amazing. They had never seen a basketball game ... we had a lot of fun."

The Globetrotters have visited 117 countries including South Africa since their first road game Jan. 7, 1927. They have played on unusual surfaces, including the deck of an aircraft carrier, the bottom of a swimming pool, the dirt floor of a bull ring and the ground of a cow pasture.

Besides being the first professional basketball team to play in a free democratic South Africa, the Globetrotters have a number of other basketball "firsts" to their name, including:

- Established the first basketball summer training camp in Shelboygan, Wisconsin, a tradition that is followed by the NBA today.
- Listed in the Guinness Book of World Records for drawing the largest crowd ever to see a basketball game — 75,000 fans in Berlin's Olympic Stadium.
- Played the first night game at Wrigley Field, bringing their own portable lighting system.
- They were the first team to use a fast-break offense, first team to use the forward and point guard positions, first to regularly use the slam dunk and first team to develop the figure-eight "weave" offense, adopted by the Boston Celtics in the early 1960s.

Since the Globetrotters' history has been so heavily involved with their fans, Versher and two of his teammates had a few words to send out to soldiers, specifically those who have already been deployed from Hunter and Fort Stewart.

"I have the utmost respect for the military," Versher said. "(Deployed soldiers) are loved from afar."

Curly "Boo" Johnson, who has played with the team for 14 years, said he wanted to tell spouses and families who have stayed behind, "We appreciate their loved ones and have faith that they will come home safely."

St. Julien's message was simple. "Thank you for protecting our country," he said, as he wiped his hand on his red, white and blue uniform.



Mike "The Saint" St. Julien leaps toward the basket for a slam dunk, pausing in midair to catch his breath.

Marne Scoreboard

Aerobics

Hunter Fitness Center
Aerobics schedule

Mondays — 6 to 7 p.m.
Cardio-Stepping
Low Impact
Jump Rope
Weights
AB Work Stretch

Wednesday — 6 to 7 p.m.
Cardio-Stepping
Low Impact
Jump Rope
Weights
AB Work Stretch

Fridays — 6 to 7 p.m.
Fun Fridays
Party Dance
Yoga Stretches

Volleyball

DCAS/MWR presents the
Garrison Commander's Cup
Registration for the Garrison Commander's Cup is March 25. It will be held at Taylors

Racquetball

Coastal Georgia Open
Racquetball Tournament
April 4 through 6

Entry deadline for the Coastal Georgia Open Racquetball Tournament is 6 p.m., April 2. The tournament will be held at Newman Fitness Center. This is a USRA sanctioned event. USRA rules apply. All players must have current USRA membership. Memberships will be available at the tournament desk. Matches will be two games to 15 and tiebreaker to 11. Single elimination. USRA approved eye guards mandatory. All proceeds from this tournament support our soldiers fighting the war on terrorism. For more information or to obtain entry form, call the tournament director, Charles Knight at 877-5368, (800) 335-5066, ext. 247 or email: cgknight@teamektelon.com

Creek Golf Course, March 28. Teams will be by blind draw, show time will be 10:30 a.m. and Tee time will be 1:30 a.m. Individual registration is required at Taylors Creek Pro Shop. Entrance fee is \$30, includes green fee, golf cart and prize fund. For more information, call 767-2370.

Staff Sgt. Lisa Whitters, Equal Opportunity Advisor at Hunter, sits on the sidelines with the New York Nationals as their honorary coach. The Globetrottes have been entertaining crowds around the world since Jan. 17, 1927.



Got Scores? Contact the *Frontline* staff at 767-3440 or e-mail Frontline@stewart.army.mil.

Volunteer Spotlight



KARA COLLINS

Kara Collins, native of Boston, Ma., is a volunteer for 3rd Forward Support Battalion as the A Co., 3rd FSB Family Readiness Group Leader.

“I volunteer because I enjoy helping people, which in turn helps me. It helps me by allowing me to feel as though I have made a difference in someone’s life. I volunteer because I can be there for someone who may not have anyone,” Collins said.

The thing she likes most about volunteering is, “The ability to meet lots of people from many different walks of life,” Collins said.

If you would like more information about becoming an ACS volunteer, visit ACS at Building 470 on Fort Stewart, Building 1286 on Hunter Army Airfield or for more information, call Vickie Wiginton at 767-5058.



WOODRUFF THEATER

March 20 — March 26



Admission for all shows is \$3 for adults, \$1.50 for children.

Final Destination 2 (R)

Starring: Ali Larter, A.J. Cook
Tonight at 7 p.m. Free Showing
Kimberly watches helplessly as a logging truck careens out of control and loses its deadly payload, setting off a horrifying chain reaction. A moment later she finds herself still stuck in on-ramp traffic, with a line of commuters she saw die moments before trailing her behind her. It was a vision. But was it also a warning?
Run time: 90 minutes

The Recruit (PG-13)

Starring: Al Pacino, Colin Farrell
Friday and Wednesday at 7 p.m.
Set at the “secret” CIA training facility called the Farm at Camp Peary in Virginia, a young agent trainee suspects his instructor of being a double agent for the Chinese government.
Run time: 105 minutes

Shanghai Knights (PG-13)

Starring: Jackie Chan, Owen Wilson
Saturday Free Showing and Tuesday at 7 p.m.
Chon Wang and Roy O’Bannon head to London, England after Chon’s estranged father is murdered by a Chinese rebel. Chon’s sister, Lin, also arrives and uncovers a plot to murder the royal family.
Run time: 114 minutes

About Schmidt (R)

Starring: Jack Nicholson, Hope Davis
Sunday and Monday at 7 p.m.
Warren has arrived at several of live’s crossroads all at the same time. He is retiring, his only daughter is about to mary, his wife dies suddenly after 42 years of marriage. He is desparate to find something meaningful in his thoroughly unimpressive life.
Run time: 125 minutes

FREE Showing on Thursday Final Destination 2



Birth announcements



February 18
Karissa Lynn Pope, a girl, 5 pounds, 5 ounces, born to Spc. Robert Earl Pope III and Amber Lynn Pope.
This baby was born at Memorial Health University Medical Center, Savannah.

March 4
Lee Roy Nelson III, a boy, 8 pounds, 8 ounces, born to Spc. Lee Roy Nelson Jr.,

and April Lynn Nelson.
Sydney Nicole Cook, a girl, 8 pounds, 2 ounces, born to Sgt. 1st Class Aaron Brent Cook and Tracee Cook.
Jeremiah Rashawn Davis, a boy, 7 pounds, 5 ounces, born to Spc. Wendy Jean Davis.
Yahaira Elizabeth Rivas, a girl, 6 pounds, 11 ounces, born to Spc. Guillermo Rivas and Adriana Rivas.

March 5
Dalen Alexander Hass, a boy, 8 pounds, 15 ounces, born to John Hass and Spc. Melanie Hass.

Nicholas Robert Jolley, a boy, 8 pounds, born to Sgt. 1st Class Robert A. Jolley IV and Staff Sgt. Amanda E. Jolley.
Jasmine Michelle Yon, a girl, 7 pounds, 11 ounces, born to Sgt. Darrin T. Yon and Lucindia L. Yon.

March 6
Michael Shane Chambers Jr., a boy, 7 pounds, born to Pvt. 2 Michael Shane Chambers Jr. and Kayla Michelle Chambers.
Austin Wesley Kahn, a boy, 6 pounds, 3 ounces, born to Sgt. Christopher William Kahn and Jeanette Leah Kahn.

March 7
Timothy Joseph Jones Jr., a boy, 8 pounds, 2 ounces, born to Sgt. Timothy J. Jones and Zaira Jones.
Navia Mauryona Waters, a girl, 6 pounds, 4 ounces, born to Marcus Waters and Spc. Chastity Waters.

March 8
Sebastian Kenneth Berry, a boy, 9 pounds, 8 ounces, born to Sgt. Kenneth J. Berry and Linda Berry.
Julien Namu Aponte, a boy, 8 pounds, 12 ounces, born to Staff Sgt. Natanael Aponte Jr. and Sae Pum Aponte.